



Gerard J. P. Connolly

Educational Consultant and Coach, Gifted Speaker, Writer
Leadership for Youth
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Major Areas of Expertise:

- ☞ Leadership for Youth
- ☞ Speaker and Keynote for educational organizations
- ☞ Mentor to new teachers in private education
- ☞ Advisor to educational institutions

Gerard Connolly is known for his powerful speeches and his commitment to the holistic development of youth. Throughout his career in the field of education, Gerry has modeled a philosophy of autonomy balanced with accountability. Gerry is a thoughtful decision-maker and interactive leader distinguished by his integrity, consistency and principles and his ability to foster a climate for learning, growth and opportunity. Over the course of his career, he has mentored students, faculty and administrators to achieve more than they thought possible and to create their personal road for development and excellence.

During the course of his thirty-year career, Gerry has held teaching and administrative positions at the most academically challenging private schools in New Hampshire, New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Maryland. Positions included:

- ☞ Dean of Students and Assistant to the Headmaster at The Derryfield School in N.H.
- ☞ Assistant to the Head of the Upper School at The Nichols School in N.Y.
- ☞ Latin Instructor at The Roxbury Latin School in MA.
- ☞ Upper School Head and Acting Headmaster at The Providence Country Day School in R.I.
- ☞ Upper School Head at The Severn School in MD.
- ☞ Assistant Headmaster at Washington Latin School, a charter school in Washington DC
- ☞ Upper School Head at the Indian Creek School in Crownsville, MD

As a classics expert and history enthusiast, he has kept his love of Latin and History alive by teaching throughout his career in addition to his administrative duties. He has traveled to Greece, Turkey and Europe to deepen his knowledge and experience of the Classical World. His other love is sports. He has coached girls and boys basketball, (including a current NBA player) bringing the same principles and integrity to the court that he brings to the classroom.

Gerry's consulting offers education-oriented organizations and schools effective instructional leadership skills, including team and culture building capacity; and experience in dynamic school improvement, including on-going planning,

implementation and assessment. His ability to mentor and coach is demonstrated in the relationships he has maintained over many years in the field of education. His students still seek him out as adults for advice and guidance.

He is a gifted and sought-after speaker on topics regarding leadership, ethics and youth. He is as comfortable delivering a speech to adults as he is to the more critical audience of teen-agers.

Gerry holds a Masters in Educational Administration from the Teachers College at Columbia University in New York and a B.A. from Colby College in Waterville, Maine. Among his accomplishments is the award of the Klingenstein Fellowship Award from the Teachers College at Columbia University, and numerous faculty and senior class appreciation awards and yearbook dedications from those at schools where he has worked. Of these he is most proud.

Gerard lives in the Annapolis area with his wife, son and ageless Retriever. He enjoys sports, model trains, biking, Irish music and a cold Guinness among friends.

Excerpt from a speech delivered to parents and students:

"The study of philosophy and religion was very important for me when I was in college. I remember wrestling with the issues of violence and non-violence and I greatly admired Mahatma Ghandi and Martin Luther King. I wrote one night as a college freshman (I'm not sure what I was doing that night), "Whichever way I turn I am in a dilemma. I can chose as a Christian a passive resistance. Yet, am I entitled to stand by while another is brutalized?" I had written not an answer but a riddle: "If I act, I become one of them. If I act not, I become their slave." I am not sure that I brought this matter to resolution, but I do know that the struggle to bring this to resolution has made me a better person. You cannot grow as a person unless you grapple with such issues."